Appln. No. 10/725,058 Reply to Office action of August 5, 2005 Response dated November 21, 2005

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace paragraph 15 beginning on page 5, lines 1-9 with the following:

As the carbon black for rubber reinforcement used as the starting material for production of a modified carbon black for rubber reinforcement in the present invention, it is possible to use any carbon black which is generally used in the past for tires and other rubber compositions. Preferable carbon blacks are the SRF to SAF grades. Preferable carbon blacks may also include, for example, general-purpose furnace (GPF) to superabrasion furnace (SAF) grades. It is possible to use the same differently or blend two or more types depending on the application of the rubber composition.